

The Academy Concert.

Friday, the 16th inst., being the

close of one half-session and the

beginning of the next, President

Plummer gave one of his pleas-

ant little entertainments, consist-

ing of calisthenics, vocal and instru-

mental music and recitations. The

calisthenics, requiring the eye alone,

and not the ear, to appreciate it,

was very graceful and amusing,

particularly the part where the

little ladies handled their dolls with

a pretty matronly grace. For the

rest of the evening, if we were to

criticize what we heard, it would be,

not the music or the speaking, but

the conversation of the audience.

This was carried on throughout the

evening in such a manner as to

cause a continued murmur all over

the house, and in one corner of it

something approaching to an up-

roar. Now the effort of abstracting

one's attention from such a noise

to such a degree as to listen to

music, becomes after a short time

too fatiguing for mortal man to keep

it up, and we soon relinquished the

attempt. So far as we heard any-

thing, we are enabled to say that

the performance manifested careful

musical training, and the solos of

Miss M. Adams and Mr. Forbes

something a long way beyond that,

but there is no satisfaction in catch-

ing an occasional note or two of an

air in the intervals of the sur-

rounding gable, so we have not

further to say in the way of

either commendation or criticism.

We were called upon to advise

Dr. Plummer on the best expedient

for avoiding such a result, we should

say that if you were to be to

issue tickets of invitation to the

parents and guardians of the schol-

ars, and to admit none else, this

charge for admittance does not

answer the purpose. At a quarter

of a dollar it does not exclude those

who go merely for the purpose of

joining a crowd, and if more were

charged it would exclude some

whose presence is desired. But

carefully distributed tickets of invita-

tion would ensure an audience

who really desire to hear what is

done, and who would defer their

conversation to a more fitting

season.

We were one of several members

of the audience, who sent up a re-

quest to Madame Meininger for a

solo played by herself, with which

she very good-humoredly assented,

but before her performance was

through we regretted having made

the request, as it suggested an extra

solo lady to say, gross indignity of

playing to an audience whose ill-

timed noise rendered it impossible

to hear her. We sympathize sin-

cerely with her and with Dr. Plum-

mer, but can see no remedy except

that which we have suggested.

Decorative Art.

We have taken the round of Mr.

Cooke's establishment for the pur-

pose of ascertaining what general

designations belong to the class of

articles in which he deals, and have

come to the conclusion that nothing

less general than the expression

which heads this paper is compre-

hensive enough to state in brief the